

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 928

By Haile

A RESOLUTION to recognize Frederick A. "Rick" Brooks on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Frederick A. "Rick" Brooks is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for five years as park manager at Bledsoe Creek State Park and will be taking his much-deserved retirement on June 15, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the son of Barbara and Bill Brooks, Rick Brooks grew up in Oregon and Idaho; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, Mr. Brooks joined the United States Army, serving as a communications-electronics maintenance technician and attaining the rank of Chief Warrant Officer; his medals include the Good Conduct Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, and Kuwait Liberation Medal; and

WHEREAS, he was honorably discharged in 1991, after twenty-one years of devoted service; he was last stationed at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, and it was there he remained until 1997, working in the U.S. Civil Service as a GS-12 Electronics Technician; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks graduated from Colorado State University in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources Recreation and Tourism, with a concentration in Parks and Protected Area Management, and was a member of Xi Sigma Pi honors fraternity; that same year, he earned Police Officer Standards and Training certification from the Northern Colorado Police Academy; and

WHEREAS, Rick Brooks accepted a seasonal ranger position with Colorado State Parks from May 2000-November 2001, in which capacity he completed maintenance tasks, gave nature talks and guided hikes, and served as law enforcement; he then served as a park ranger at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park in Nashville from May 2002-February 2013; and

WHEREAS, his departure from Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park was necessitated by his acceptance of the position he currently holds, park manager at Bledsoe Creek State Park; the many accomplishments achieved at Bledsoe Creek State Park during his tenure include the building of a new visitor's center and an all-inclusive playground. He also worked with the Middle Tennessee History Coalition to bring a unique program to the park that tied in with local school curriculum; and

WHEREAS, Rick Brooks also had the foresight to see the long-term vision for the Middle Tennessee History Coalition's Tennessee History Trail, capitalizing on the passion and drive of the coalition to develop what has become a one-of-a-kind heritage program, which is particularly popular among homeschool programs; and

WHEREAS, devoted to serving his community in other ways as well, Mr. Brooks is a member of the Masonic Lodge in White House and the Nashville Shriners; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many successes, Mr. Brooks has enjoyed the love and support of his wife of nearly forty-five years, Debbie; their children, Frederick II and Katie; and their two grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Rick Brooks exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mr. Brooks has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the sincere respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Frederick A. "Rick" Brooks upon the occasion of

his retirement, extending our best wishes for much success and happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.